ATTACHMENT #1:

YEAR IN REVIEW: COVID-19 CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS

The City of Vaughan had been monitoring the COVID-19 situation since late January 2020 with enhanced monitoring by the EOC as of February 1, 2020. On March 13, 2020 the EOC was partially activated. On March 14, 2020 the City closed its community centres and libraries. The City of Vaughan was the first city in Ontario and the first municipality in York Region to declare a state of emergency on March 17, 2020. On March 18, 2020 all city facilities were closed to the public and facilities in the City parks were also closed on March 25, 2020. As of February 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic persists, and the City continues to respond to the situation to ensure the safety of its staff and residents. The following provides a chronology of key events from March 2020 to February 2021.

- March 13, 2020 the Emergency Response Plan was activated and the City cancelled all City and library March Break camps and daycare programming and closed facilities to the public.
- March 14, 2020 the City closed all community centres and library branches in response to COVID-19. The closure also extended to events, all community centre permits/rentals, recreational programming, swimming pools, arenas and fitness facilities as well as the City Playhouse Theatre.
- March 17, 2020 the Mayor declared a state of emergency signaling the City would take every precaution and every possible step to help break the transmission of COVID-19. The state of emergency remains in place.
- March 17, 2020 enacted the Vaughan Business Action Plan at Special Committee.
- March 18, 2020 City Hall, Joint Operations Centre and all facilities were closed to the public.
- March 21, 2020 the City advised members of the public to avoid any public playgrounds and other high-touch surfaces in parks as they are not sanitized. Signs were installed in all parks with playgrounds throughout the community directing residents to stay off the equipment.
- March 25, 2020 all facilities within the City's 213 parks, including sports fields, tennis courts, benches and dog parks were closed to the public.

- March 30, 2020 the City held its first electronic-participation Committee of the Whole and Council meetings. Electronic meetings continue for the Council meeting cycles and all committees, public hearings and taskforces.
- April 8, 2020 Council adopted an Emergency Measures By-law granting new authorities to the Mayor and staff to issue clear, responsive and decisive orders during the state of emergency.
- May 14, 2020 the Mayor announced the City had chosen to keep park facilities
 closed to keep the community safe and healthy despite the provincial
 government allowing for some facilities to reopen.
- May 14, 2020 introduced curbside pickup up at three Resource Libraries
- **June 12, 2020** the City reopened public tennis courts, skateboard parks, the dog park and parking lots.
- June 19, 2020 the City reopened a number of additional park facilities, including picnic tables, benches, soccer fields and ball diamonds (excluding premium and artificial), and basketball and bocce courts.
- June 23, 2020 passed the Vaughan Business Resilience Plan at the Ready, Resilient, Resourceful Committee of Council.
- June 26, 2020 the City reopened splashpads and public washrooms.
- July 6, 2020 introduced curbside pickup at remaining seven community Libraries
- July 24, 2020 playgrounds reopened in Vaughan.
- August 5, 2020 the City announced the continued closure of facilities including Vaughan City Hall and the Joint Operations Centre - until at least January 4, 2021.
- August 10, 2020 fitness centres and City squash courts reopened on a limited basis.
- August 17, 2020 select in-person fitness classes resumed.
- **September 8, 2020** pools reopen for recreational and length swimming and aquafitness classes by appointment.

- **September 8, 2020** re-opened three Resource Libraries. Curbside pickup continued at Community Libraries.
- September 19, 2020 the limit on the number of people allowed to attend an
 unmonitored social gathering or organized public event in Vaughan and York
 Region is restricted to 10 people indoors (previous limit of 50) and 25 people
 outdoors (previous limit of 100). This includes functions, parties, dinners,
 gatherings, barbecues or wedding receptions held in private residences,
 backyards and parks.
- **September 21, 2020** All remaining indoor pools in the City of Vaughan reopen to the public.
- October 19, 2020 Province announced modified Stage 2 restrictions for the City of Vaughan and all of York Region for 28 days. As a result, all City fitness centres closed starting on Monday, Oct. 19. In-person fitness classes were cancelled. However, virtual fitness classes continued to be available via Zoom and YouTube. Swimming pools remain open for recreational and length swimming, as well as aquafitness, with additional protocols, including reduced capacity; the number of people in the pool at one time will be limited to 10. Arenas will also remain open by permit only, however, the number of people on the ice at one time will be limited to 10 with no spectators. Team sports will be limited to training sessions only no games and scrimmages.
- October 21, 2020 Council voted to further extend the temporary patio permit deadline until the end of the declared state of emergency in Vaughan it will remain in effect until 14 days beyond this date.
- November 3, 2020 the Province announced updates on restrictions for communities affected by COVID-19 called the <u>Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework</u>. Under this new framework, York Region moved to the "Orange Restrict" level as of Saturday, Nov. 7, allowing gyms among other businesses to reopen with additional protective measures. In Vaughan, the decision to reopen facilities is informed by a risk model developed by the City with public safety always being the priority. The risk model uses Vaughan-specific COVID-19 data and reflects guidance issued by <u>York Region Public Health</u> and the provincial government. Based on this model, City fitness centres continued to remain closed.
- **November 13, 2020** Toy Drive launch in support of CP24 CHUM Christmas Wish.
- **November 16, 2020** York Region moved to the Control-Red level in the Province of Ontario's tiered Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework.

- November 25, 2020 Virtual Volunteer Recognition Awards Ceremony.
- **November 27, 2020** COVID-19 Enforcement Initiative conducted in conjunction with York Regional Health (YRH) for inspection of businesses for compliance under the ROA O.Reg 82/20.
- December 4, 2020 Virtual Christmas Tree lighting.
- **December 10, 2020** Virtual Menorah lighting.
- **December 14, 2020** York Region entered Grey-Lockdown Stage, closing pools and indoor arenas.
- December 26, 2020 Province moves to full lockdown restrictions. All recreational and library facilities closed; virtual programming continued and libraries reverted back to curbside pickup.
- **December 31, 2020** BCLPS conducts Boxing Day Mall Blitz and New Year's Eve Banquet Halls & Eating Establishment Blitz.
- **January 15, 2021** City closes dog park, skating rinks and toboggan hill in response to Province's "Stay at Home" measures and in response to rising cases of the virus and people crowding in these spaces while not following public health guidelines around physical distancing and mask usage.
- January 25, 2021 Recreation Services introduced Vaughan FITbreaks, daily 5-minute exercises to add a short burst of physical activity aimed to re-energize the body and mind.
- **January 27**, **2021** The dog park and toboggan hill reopened with enhanced safety protocols and enforcement measures.
- February 1, 2021 All five of the City's outdoor rinks reopen with enhanced safety and registration protocols.
- **February 4, 2021** City launched a new snowshoe loaner program.
- **February 7**, **2021** City hosted its first-ever Virtual Winterfest
- **February 22, 2021** York Region moved to the Control-Red level in the Province of Ontario's tiered <u>Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework</u>.

2020-2021 **CITY** OF VAUGHAN COVID-19 RESPONSE **EFFORTS**

Response Plan activated All City and library March Break camps

State of Emergency declared and daycare Vaughan programming

bills waived Deadline for the Elderly **Business Action** 2020 program

Late penalty

charge on

extended

interim

property tax Modifications Home-Owners to by-law Tax Assistance enforcement

meetings held Annual stormwater All facilities charge deferred within the for 60 days City's 213 parks including sports Planned 2020

First-ever electronic-

Committee of the

Whole and Council

participation

March 30

recreation programs and all permits cancelled City-led events up until

Spring

Emergency Measures By-law adopted First-ever

April 8

facilities lowered in memory of COVID-19 victims

Flags at City

Guardians of our Government employee

April 14

April 11

Online corporate art collection launched

April 17

List of announced

Special edition COVID-19 newsletter going to

Fitness Waste-less members Live electronic deputation New online via Skype permit porta announced announced

May 6

May 5

cancelled March 13

June 14

Free full-length

classes on the

channel launch

Vaughan YouTube

virtual fitness

Recreation

March 19 March 17

Plan launched

services announced

fields, benches water and and dog parks, wastewater rate closed increases cancelled

June 2020 postponed

April 2

Operation Guardian virtual Canada enforcemen Day event campaign announced announced

April 9

appreciation campaign announced

Three-month rent deferral for not-forprofit tenants at City facilities announced

April 22

permitted outdoor maintenance services

April 25

April 24

Adjustments

to regularly

scheduled

Vaughan homes capability and businesses announced

April 30

April 27

May 15

Vaughan Public

virtual visits offered to residents needing help sorting waste material

March 14 Libraries and community

centres closed

to the public

March 18 Vaughan City Hall and all other City facilities closed to the public

Waste collection services increase with additional Double Up Days added

June 5

March 28 Vaughan Public Proper waste Libraries' digital disposal collection education began announced

March 25

April 1 Recreation Services' virtual recreation resources announced

Deadline for the Elderly Home-Owners Tax Assistance 2020 program further extended

April 6

The #Shop Resumption Vaughan Local of leaf and campaign yard waste announced collections announced

April 10

Vaughan Public Libraries' Frenchlanguage programmin expanded

April 16

participation Committee of the Whole and Council meetings continue Update from

> Bevilacqua delivered

April 21

Electronic-

spring and summer public works operations announced Mayor Maurizio

Libraries' new online service called Ask Us announced

"Open for Online corporate art collection Business" online expanded directory announced

Equipment

made available

packages

for loan to

Vaughan

May 4

May 2

Street sweeper and combination sewer cleaner received by the City as a service-in-kind donation

May 7

May 8

A number of additional park facilities reopen, including picnic tables, benches, soccer fields and baseball diamonds (excluding premium and artificial). and basketball and bocce

courts Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua issues a first-ever directive under the City's Emergency Measures By-law to allow local eating establishments and banquet halls to temporarily expand or establish patios, while maintaining physical distancing

June 12

Public tennis courts. skateboard parks, dog park and parking lots reopen

Vaughan, in partnership with York Region Public Health and the Vaughan Chamber of Commerce, host a webinar for businesses reopening

New curbside

marriage licence service offering announced Medical Waste Exemption program The first meeting to help residents of the newly who generate established Ready,

additional non-recyclable Resourceful (RRR) waste as a result of a medical condition announced parks reopen

June 25

June 26

Splashpads

washrooms in

and public

New City Digital daily tourism website, visitvaughan.ca, launched

Vaughan Public Libraries' first-ever Virtual Science Fair

programming in celebration of Recreation and Parks Month announced

Vaughan's first-ever

virtual Canada Day

celebration kicks off

featuring headlining

July 1

act Barenaked Ladies

May 31

Online corporate art collection expanded

The Virtual Summer

Adventures series,

the City's first-ever

camp programming,

virtual summer

begins

July 6

May 30

Online summer camps and programs beginning in July announced

May 29

Cancellation of Vaughan Public Libraries' in-library programs until 2021 announced

May 28

Elimination of Vaughan Public Libraries' overdue

fines announced Extension of Wi-Fi at the Bathurst Clark Resource Library, Civic Centre Resource Library and Pierre Berton Resource Library branches to reach the parking lot announced

Expansion of Vaughan Public Libraries' Curbside Pickup program to every library in Vaughan announced

New Ready,

May 27

Resilient and Resourceful (RRR) Committee established

Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT) further suspended until Sept.

Economic Impact Survey launched Second session of the online speaker series in collaboration with Niagara University took place

Statement from Mayor

Maurizio Bevilacqua

in response to York

directive with respect

Region Council's

to face masks or

coverings issued

June 17

May 20 Vaughan Public

Libraries first in province to begin offering curbside pickup announced

Playgrounds

reopen

July 24

May 16

initiative supporting community wellness

Mavor Maurizio

Vaughan City

announces most City

facilities - including

Hall and the Joint

Operations Centre

to the public until

at the earliest

Aug. 5

- will remain closed

Monday, Jan. 4, 2021,

Bevilacqua

New Digital Additional 30 Small Business interim property Resiliency tax bills and a 30-day Program launched extension on final instalments took effect

Vaughan Fitness

at reduced hours

Sept. 13

Centres reopen

and capacity

Aug. 10

May 13

New website, in collaboration geared at igniting with Niagara economic prosperity University launched

May 12

announced Annual InSpirit Festival announced to go virtual

May 11

New online

Registration for the

Program begins

Aug. 28

next cohort of the new

Digital Boost Vaughan

Small Business Resiliency

June 23

Resilient and

Committee of

Council convenes

Oct. 15

City's 26th annual Vaughan Celebrates Concerts in the Park announced to kick off online for five Wednesdays from Oct. 21 until Nov. 18

Oct. 14 Council supports Mayor Bevilacqua's Member's Resolution asking City staff to bring forward a 2021 Budget with the option for a zero per cent property

City issues reminder to Provincial limits of 10 people indoors, 25 people outdoors tax rate while practising physical distancing

Council unanimously voted to further until the end of the declared state Vaughan and have

Oct. 6

extend the temporary patio permit deadline of emergency in it remain in effect 14 days beyond the end of the emergency declaration

Residents encouraged to #ShopVaughanLocal to citizens to remain vigilant for Thanksgiving, for Thanksgiving explore virtual options for connecting with loved ones and adhere

Oct. 5

Sept. 29 Registration launched for expanded fall virtual program series, which is designed to keep kids active, engaged, educated and entertained from the safety of home

July 7

Sept. 25 Mayor Bevilacqua announces fall recreation programs will be virtual City kicks off month-long

celebration of Culture Days featuring virtual events that can be enjoyed from the comfort of home

Sept. 21 All remaining City indoor pools reopened to the public

City of Vaughan

Sept. 19 Unmonitored social gatherings or organized

In-person summer

Temporary bin

through home

July 20

exchange program

delivery announced

begins

camp programming

public events in Vaughan and York Region restricted by the Province to 10 people indoors (previous limit of 50) and 25 people outdoors

(previous limit of 100)

Sept. 16 Sept. 14 Pilot project using Quick Response (QR) Codes to alert staff about full garbage cans

in City parks

is launched

City expands

Nov. 23

Dec. 15

online offerings

Exclusive in-person workout times announced for seniors way back to class

City issues a school Pools reopen for recreational and zone safety reminder for drivers, parents and children as students make their

Select in-person

fitness classes

resume

Aug. 17

length swimming and aquafitness classes by appointment

Vaughan Fitness Centre hours extended to full days

Vaughan Public Libraries reopen three of its resource branches - Bathurst Clark Resource Library, Civic Centre Resource Library and Pierre Berton Resource Library - with regular hours, amended services and safety procedures in place

in-person fitness classes stop and virtual fitness classes continue via Zoom and YouTube. Fitness Small Business Week memberships on hold and kicks off virtually automatically extended for offering programming the duration of the closure and resources for business support City swimming pools

Feb. 5

new monthly

lecture series

Feb. 12

Oct. 19

Province announced

restrictions for the City

York Region for 28 days

remain open with additional

protocols and reduced

in pool at one time

capacity - limit 10 people

of Vaughan and all of

Fitness centres close,

modified Stage 2

Vaughan Public Libraries announced

City advises to

have Halloween

fun virtually this

year and refrain

trick-or-treating.

Online Halloween-

from Recreation

Services and

themed entertainme

Jan. 27

Dog park

and toboggan

from door-to-door

Oct. 21 Oct. 22

Mayor Bevilacqua presents Jean Augustine with Key to the City in a virtual celebration

Oct. 25

Jan. 15

emergency

fitness equipment packages for loan to current Vaughan Fitness members over the age of 18 for the duration of the current facility closures

Jan. 13

Oct. 28

Recreation

Services launches

City holds the first Remembrance Day virtual event

Nov. 2

Jan. 11

announced updates on restrictions for communities affected by COVID-19 called the **Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework**

Dec. 26

Residents

encouraged to

for Boxing Day

lockdown begins

Ontario-wide

#ShopVaughanLocal

Nov. 3

The Province

becomes first municipality in tool to allocate resources and reduce winter salt usage

Nov. 6

Canada to adopt a smart-technology artificial intelligence

Under the provincial framework, York Region moves to "Orange - Restrict" level. Fitness centres remain closed

and the City of Vaughan moved to the "Red - Control" level in the Province of Ontario's tiered framework

Nov. 16

Dec. 16

tax rate

York Region

through Service Vaughan reporting tool of additional to allow citizens to purchase garbage tags online and submit requests for a blue box level under and green bin the provincial exchange framework

Nov. 30

Dec. 11

The City increases The first of COVID-19 response three electronic with redeployment officers to delay and avoid Vaughan moving to the "Grey - Lockdown" opened, weather

Dec. 2

participation public meetings took place to discuss the 2021 Budget and 2022 Financial Plan The City's five outdoor skating rinks

The first virtual Vaughan Accessibility Champion Awards took place permitting

Dec. 3

Dec. 6

Sept. 8

Dec. 4

The City's annual

Lighting occurred

Christmas Tree

virtually for the

first time

Feb. 7 Annual Winterfest celebration held virtually

for the first time Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital officially opened

for Valentine's Day

in Vaughan

Feb. 11 Annual Lunar Natural rinks opened New Year celebration held virtually for Residents the first time encouraged to #ShopVaughanLocal

Feb. 1 Feb. 4 VPL announced Snowshoe All five City

during COVID-19

Oct. 20

loaner

program

launched

reopened with hill reopened enhanced safety with enhanced and registration safety measures system, measures Annual Black History Month

event held virtually

outdoor rinks

York Region and City of Vaughan move to "Red - Control" level

Feb. 22

for the first time

Jan. 24

New and easy-to-use online registration PerfectMind launched for City's recreation program users

Dog park, outdoor skating rinks and toboggan hill closed in response to Province of Ontario's stayat-home order measures, rising cases of the virus and declaration of a second provincial

VPL reiterates digital learning resources, curbside program and educational services assist with continued learning support for students

City of Vaughan partnered with the Centre for Social Innovation, York Region, the City of Markham and the City of Richmond Hill for Social Enterprise 101 - a virtual program to support local entrepreneurs and citizens in becoming social innovators

2021

Dec. 22 Order of Vaughan investiture ceremony took place virtually for the first time

opened

Nov. 7

Registration for virtual recreation winter classes

Dec. 19

Mayor Bevilacqua and Members of Council approve 2021 Budget and 2022 Financial Plan with zero per cent increase to property

Mayor Bevilacqua issues RRR end-of-year statement

York Region and the City of Vaughan moved to the "Grey - Lockdown" level in the Province of Ontario's tiered framework. Only essential stores allowed to remain open for in-person shopping. Non-essential businesses could remain open online or offer curb-side pickup

The City's annual Menorah Lighting Ceremony happened virtually for the first time

Dec. 10

Residents encouraged to #ShopVaughanLocal for the holiday season



